

PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP MOVEMENT

There are no strangers
There are only friends
We haven't met yet.

The Family Group Movement began in 1973 under the direction of Passionist Father McGrath in Australia, from where it spread to New Zealand in 1988 and subsequently to USA, England and Ireland. Johnsonville Parish joined the movement in 1991.

What is a family group?

Each group consists of 30-40 people or ten family units with members of all ages, single, widowed, married with or without children. These groups meet regularly for social occasions and grow into a network like an extended family. Through their interaction they bring a happy, loving spirit to the parish community, where people feel they belong, know each other and worship together. Johnsonville Parish currently has eight family groups. Each group is lead by a co-ordinator, but group members are equally responsible for the group's dynamics.

Can anyone join in?

The motto is "A family for all", whether you are married, single, widowed, divorced and whatever your age. Our age group ranges from birth to the eighties. Family groups will look after each other, offer lifts to the elderly or infirm and try to consider people's situations and abilities when planning their functions. We often hear people saying, they are so busy and already have a large family and lots of friends. Longstanding parishioners with all their friends and relations are especially important for newcomers, who so often feel isolated from the well established groups of parishioners, and they can be of great help in the family groups.

At St Francis of Assisi, Ohariu we are never short of ideas for activities.

**If you would like more information
or would like to join,
please contact our parish co-ordinators:**

John & Kerry Kleinsman 232 3538